PATENT APPLICATION 10/615,885

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Baofu Duan

Serial No.:

10/615,885

Filed:

July 8, 2003

Group No.:

2624

Examiner:

Daniel G. Mariam

Notice of Allowance Mailed: October 9, 2007

Confirmation No.:

9839

Title:

HIERARCHICAL DETERMINATION OF FEATURE

RELEVANCY

## Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-14 and 16-27. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for reasons for allowance. allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

> Respectfully submitted, BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. Attorneys for Applicants

Luke K. Pedersen Registration No. 45,003

Date: CUSTOMER NO. 05073